Bangladesh informed that the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh has given strict instructions not to allow the presence of any insurgent training camps in Bangladesh, as well as to curb their free movement across the border. In order to check their movement across the border, the cooperation of India has been sought. Government of Bangladesh's proposal was welcomed and our support and cooperation offered.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister also mentioned that a number of civilians had been killed on the border over the last few months. This issue had also been discussed during the Director General-level talks held between BSF and Bangladesh Rifles in March 2002 in Dhaka. It was pointed out by the Indian side that firing by BSF was undertaken only as a last resort. GOI has sought the cooperation of Bangladesh authorities to prevent illegal cross border movement from Bangladesh into India.

Demand made by Jammu and Kashmir to revoke Indus waters Treaty

226. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jammu and Kashmir has urged the Central Government to revoke or revise the India-Pakistan Indus Waters Treaty;

(b) whether the State is suffering great loss due to this treaty;

(c) if so, the details of the loss being sustained by the State on account of this treaty; and

(d) Government's response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) There have been suggestions including in the press that India should consider abrogating the Indus Waters treaty in view of Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism directed against India in violation of international law and bilateral agreements. Government have taken appropriate diplomatic and other measures to effectively defeat the menace of cross border terrorism. Pakistan has now made a commitment to stop cross border infiltration on a permanent basis, not to allow the territory of Pakistan to be used for terrorism anywhere in the world, or any organisation in Pakistan to indulge in terrorism in the name of Kashmir.

Projects in the hydro-power and irrigation sectors have been taken up for implementation in the State of J&K keeping in mind the provisions of the Indus Water Treaty.

Discussion on Maoist threat with King Gyanendra

227. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the visit of His Excellency King Gyanendra to India, the Maoist threat was discussed and India has offered both military aid and moral support to Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement, if any, finalised in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Issues relating to the Maoist insurgency in Nepal were discussed during the recent visit of His Majesty King Gyanendra, King of Nepal, to India from June 23—28, 2002. King Gyanendra expressed gratitude for India's support in Nepal's fight against the Maoist insurgency, and sought continued cooperation of India for the steps taken by Government of Nepal to restore normalcy and order in the country. The Indian leadership reiterated its resolve to continue to support Nepal in its efforts for maintaining peace and security in the country. India is providing assistance, as required by Nepal, including by way of equipment and training for the Royal Nepal Army and the Special Armed Police Force, for dealing with the Maoist insurgency.

Policies to counter Maligning compaign by a Neighbouring Country

228. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India have concrete programmes and policies to counter maligning by one of the neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, how the fund earmarked remained underutilized in 2000-2001 during Kargil crisis; and

(c) the action proposed to enhance publicity and advertisement to counter anti-India propaganda globally ?